

Message Text

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60

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 NIC-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07

H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01

SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15 PC-04 AID-20 DRC-01 /138 W

----- 125038

R 281345Z MAR 74

FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0536

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE NEW DELHI 4219

FOL CALCUTTA TEL RPTD FYI

QUOTE

R 280615Z MAR 74

FM AMCONSUL CALCUTTA

TO RUSBAE/AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI 9146

INFO RUSBAY/AMCONSUL BOMBAY 2054

RUSBAS/AMCONSUL MADRAS 1974

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE CALCUTTA 0588

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS CPFOR, US, UR, IN

SUBJ: RADIO PEACE AND PROGRESS: A SORT-OF APOLOGY

1. AT THE CONSULAR CORPS LUNCHEON MARCH 27, THE GARRULOUS AND UBIQUITOUS CULTURAL/INFORMATION OFFICER, E. MOROZOV OF SOVIET CONSULATE GENERAL, FOR FIRST TIME EVER APPROACHED PETER BURLEIGH AND HELD LONG CONVERSATION WITH HIM BOTH OVER DRINKS BEFORE LUNCH AND MANAGED TO SET NEXT TO BURLEIGH DURING LUNCHEON. TRYING TO KEEP IN A HUMOROUS VEIN THROUGHOUT, MOROZOV NOTED THAT BURLEIGH SEEMED TO BE THE SUBJECT OF PRESS REPORTS AGAIN. BURLEIGH AGREED. MOROZOV SAID HE HAD EARLIER THOUGHT THEY HAD DIED DOWN. BURLEIGH SAID THEY HAD UNTIL RADIO PEACE AND

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PROGRESS PICKED THEM UP AGAIN IN JANURY. MOROZOV SAID

"WE THOUGHT THAT WAS REGRETTABLE." BURLEIGH AGREED THAT IT WAS.

2. MOROZOV ALLOWED AS TO HOW SOME INDIAN POLITICIANS ARE SUSPICIOUS OF THE ACTIVITIES OF FOREIGN DIPLOMATS, BUT THAT AVERAGE INDIANS WERE WILLING TO TAKE RUMORS AT FACE VALUE. MOROZOV WONDERED HOW BURLEIGH HAD "GOTTEN TO BE SUCH AN EXPERT ON EASTERN INDIA." BURLEIGH DESCRIBED HIS SEVEN YEARS IN THE AREA. MOROZOV ASKED WHERE HE LEARNED NEPALI AND BENGALI. BURLEIGH AGAIN DESCRIBED HIS EXPERIENCE IN AREA. MOROZOV THOUGHT BURLEIGH SHOULD WRITE A BOOK, PARTICULARLY ON HIS PEACE CORPS EXPERIENCE ("SOME PEOPLE ARE EVEN SUSPICIOUS OF THE PEACE CORPS," HE NOTED). MOROZOV HIMSELF IS WRITING A BOOK ON CALCUTTA, WOULD BURLEIGH LIKE TO CONTRIBUTE TO IT? IN WHAT WAY? OH, SOMETHING ABOUT THE ETHNIC COMPLEXITY OF THE CITY. BURLEIGH DISCLAIMED SPECIAL KNOWLEDGE THEREOF.

3. MOROZOV CLOSED THE CONVERSATION BY SUGGESTING (AMONGST HEAVY GUFFAWING) THAT "SINCE YOU'VE TRAVELLED EVERYPLACE IN EASTERN INDIA, WHY NOT ANNOUNCE TO THE PRESS THAT YOU'RE OFF TO DIEGO GARCIA NEXT?" BURLEIGH COULDN'T THINK OF ANY REPLY TO THAT ONE.

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